Port Construction by China

†2929. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that China is secretly engaged in the construction of a port near one of the busiest sea ways of the world, Hanbantota, situated off the southern coast of Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has approached Government of Sri Lanka with regard to this constitution; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the development of Hanbantota Port being undertaken in Southern Sri Lanka with Chinese assistance, the contract for which was finalised in March, 2007.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian policy towards Pakistan

2930. MS. MABEL REBELLO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan's President admitted Pak nurtured terrorism and has admitted that Islamabad made tactical use of militancy against India;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan even now accused India for not cooperating with 26/11 inquiry report on terrorism;

(c) whether in spite of this India and Pakistan have set a stage for fresh engagement;

(d) if so, whether a new strategy has been adopted by Prime Minister to deal with Pakistan so that its territory is not used against India and further negotiations continue between two countries;

(e) if so, whether there is a change of policy towards Pakistan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA): (a) Government has seen reports in which the President of Pakistan has said that militants and extremists were deliberately created and nurtured by Pakistan as a policy to achieve some short-term tactical objectives while talking to a gathering of former civil servants in Islamabad on 07 July, 2009.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.